

RED HOOK TOWN BOARD MEETING

February 27, 2019

A meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Red Hook, Dutchess County, New York was convened in public session at the Town Hall, 7340 South Broadway, Red Hook at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Supervisor Robert McKeon
Councilman Harry Colgan
Councilman William O’Neill
Councilperson Sarah Imboden
Councilperson Christine Kane (7:51 p.m.)
Town Clerk Sue McCann
Also Present: Attorney Christine Chale

Supervisor McKeon called the meeting to order and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

SUPERVISOR’S REPORT

The Supervisor’s report dated January 31, 2019 was read as follows: Opening balance - \$5,174,243.07; Receipts - \$267,804.40; Disbursed - \$502,987.05; Balance - \$4,939,060.42.

On a motion of Councilman O’Neill seconded by Councilman Colgan moved to approve the Supervisor’s report.

Adopted	Ayes	5	McKeon, Colgan, O’Neill, Imboden
	Nays	0	
	Absent	1	Kane

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Supervisor McKeon pointed out budget adjustments. In the Community Preservation Fund there is now \$1.38 million.

On a motion of Councilman Colgan seconded by Councilperson Imboden moved to approve the budget adjustments.

Adopted	Ayes	5	McKeon, Colgan, O’Neill, Imboden
	Nays	0	
	Absent	1	Kane

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TOWN CLERK’S REPORT

The Town Clerk’s report for the period January 1 – January 31, 2019 was read as follows: Total local shares remitted to the Supervisor - \$5,142.88; Amount remitted to NYS Ag. & Markets - \$39.00; Amount remitted to NYS Dept. of Health - \$22.50; Amount remitted to NYS Environmental Conservation - \$23.62; Total State, County & Local Revenue - \$5,228.00

On a motion of Councilperson Imboden seconded by Councilman Colgan moved to accept the Town Clerk’s report.

Adopted	Ayes	5	McKeon, Colgan, O’Neill, Imboden
	Nays	0	
	Absent	1	Kane

Town Clerk and Tax Receiver 2018 Financial reports presented to the Town Board.

2018 ANNUAL REPORTS – TOWN OF RED HOOK JUSTICE COURT

Jonah Triebwasser, Town Justice – Total revenue - \$53,969.00
Jeffrey C. Martin, Town Justice – Total revenue - \$41,622.00

PUBLIC HEARING

PROPOSED LOCAL LAW NO. A OF 2019 ENTITLED “A LOCAL LAW TO ESTABLISH A COMMUNITY CHOICE AGGREGATION PROGRAM FOR THE TOWN OF RED HOOK”

Supervisor McKeon opened the public hearing at 7:40 p.m. He explained that the Town is embarking on joining other municipalities to collectively go out and purchase energy for

residents and businesses. Working together we hope to get 100% renewable energy. He named the City of Beacon, Cold Spring, Town of Fishkill, Phillipstown, Marbletown and the City of Poughkeepsie as partners

Town Clerk Sue McCann read the public hearing notice.

Supervisor McKeon opened for comments. There were none.

On a motion of Councilman O'Neill seconded by Councilman Colgan moved to close the public hearing.

Adopted	Ayes 5	McKeon, Colgan, O'Neill, Imboden
	Nays 0	
	Absent 1	Kane

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PUBLIC HEARING

PROPOSED LOCAL LAW NO. B OF 2019 ENTITLED "A LOCAL LAW TO ENACT AN EXTENSION, ENDING JUNE 4, 2019, OF A MORATORIUM ON LARGE SCALE COMMERCIAL EXTRACTIVE OPERATIONS IN THE TOWN OF RED HOOK"

Supervisor McKeon opened the public hearing at 7:45 p.m. A subcommittee has been working on recommendations and a draft of the law should be ready soon.

Town Clerk Sue McCann read the public hearing notice.

Supervisor McKeon opened for comments. There were none.

On a motion of Councilman O'Neill seconded by Councilperson Imboden moved to close the public hearing.

Adopted	Ayes 5	McKeon, Colgan, O'Neill, Imboden
	Nays 0	
	Absent 1	Kane

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Supervisor McKeon opened for comments. There were none.

PRESENTATION – RECOMMENDATIONS BY SAWKILL WATERSHED COMMUNITY GROUP

Supervisor McKeon introduced Karen Schneller-McDonald who gave a presentation.

Karen explained the origin of the community group whose mission is to gather information about water and watershed for the Town. She began the presentation by explaining how the Town can protect its resources. The group developed recommendations. The watershed characteristics summary included buffers, water quality, impervious surfaces, forests, wetlands and small streams, and floodplains. Groundwater supply and quality was also presented. Through wise management of natural features, many recommendations are expected to save money in the long term and avert expensive repairs and system fixes in the future. Recommendations were summarized. The report has a page of selected references. She presented a map from the DEC that shows all septic system locations, and permits, a flood mitigation study map that shows areas of restoration, and a map from the DEC about phosphorus contamination. Details are in a written report provided to the Board.

Our watershed is in good shape and they are looking at proactive ways to keep it that way.

The group meets at the Elmendorph at 7:30 pm on the third Wednesday of the month.

LOCAL LAW A – COMMUNITY CHOICE AGGREGATION

Supervisor McKeon asked if there were any questions. There were none.

RESOLUTION 2019 #14

RE: AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION BY THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF RED HOOK OF LOCAL LAW A (PROPOSED) OF 2019 REGARDING COMMUNITY CHOICE AGGREGATION PROGRAM FOR THE TOWN OF RED HOOK AS LOCAL LAW NO. 1 OF 2019

On a motion of Supervisor Robert McKeon seconded by Councilman William O'Neill moved to approve Local Law #1 of 2019.

Adopted	Ayes 5	McKeon, Colgan, O'Neill, Imboden, Kane
	Nays 0	

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RECREATION PARK UPDATES

Supervisor McKeon introduced Brandee Nelson and Ryan Morrison of our engineering firm Tighe & Bond who were in attendance to present an improved plan.

Councilman Colgan asked who on this Board worked on the plan. Who from this Board contributed to the creation of this design and made decisions?

Supervisor McKeon said this is something our engineers wanted to show us if we are contemplating a change to the plan.

Councilman Colgan asked in what way this Board was included.

Supervisor McKeon told him that it hasn't started.

Councilman Colgan said a lot of effort went into this and as far as he knows, no one on this Board who were elected to govern this Town was included in establishing this plan.

Supervisor McKeon said nothing has been established, Tighe & Bond wanted to pass on feedback they got from sports experts and the possibility of having the challenger field on the east side of the recreation park.

Councilman Colgan asked what expert advice we got. He asked about getting advice from people who deal with the challenged people who would be using it. Have we had discussion from medical people who could make recommendations? How many people would it serve based on their knowledge of the community? He asked Brandee Nelson if they ever discussed this with an occupational therapist.

Brandee answered that they never discussed this with an occupational therapist but when they were initially contacted about the challenger field last year their first order of business was to find out how many other challenger fields were in the area.

Councilman Colgan had long discussions with two occupational therapists whose profession is serving this population and he would want their input before the engineer's input.

Brandee said with all due respect to their expertise, the engineers do a considerable amount of recreation fields design work. Their in-house expert does recreational field design all over the northeast. In addition, civil engineers make sure handicapped accessibility issues are addressed in all their designs. Last February they went to the nearest challenger field in the Rochester area. They talked with them about how it came to be, and other issues. Additionally, they looked specifically at Rec. Park West. They made some observations with the needs assessment and noticed that there is a lot of movement about recreation park improvements.

She began her power point presentation and discussed how it can be phased in a logical way.

Trail improvements were added, as well as improvements to pavilion, concession and restroom facilities. Based on community feedback they also looked at athletic field needs.

Councilperson Imboden said, just to be clear, the Board didn't vote to update the master plan yet, they just discussed it.

Supervisor McKeon said they forwarded the project and approved the bond resolution with a description of the project.

Councilperson Imboden said yes, but we didn't update the master plan yet.

Attorney Chale said we did for purposes of approving the financing. The master plan is what we reviewed for SEQRA purposes before we did a bond resolution. We did approve that plan. This discussion is around the change to that.

Councilperson Imboden also wanted to clarify that the idea of the challenger field on the middle softball field came up in discussion over the summer. At what point did the engineering team investigate that being a better option. She remembers during the public discussion that it was more expensive and taken off the table. We never had any meetings about more options.

Brandee explained the steps they took. There are other ADA improvements proposed for Rec. Park East. Thinking comprehensively, these are upgrades for the Town to think about.

Councilperson Kane clarified that Tighe & Bond is bringing this up for discussion tonight.

Brandee explained that they took ideas in totality. Tighe & Bond is trying to do things in a step wise fashion to achieve recreation park improvements.

Supervisor McKeon explained that Brandee spoke to him and said they showed this to their sports experts about artificial multi use field that could be used by all groups. It would be nice to pair that with lights. He said to go ahead and put something together for the Board to look at.

Councilman Colgan said the Board has been excluded from any discussion for six months. We weren't told anything about it.

Supervisor McKeon said this is that moment where it is being shown to you.

Councilman Colgan said when he questioned people about this, he couldn't even get an answer. We need input from professional people who deal with this population.

Brandee interjected and explained that as part of the design effort, DC Planning recommended consulting Taconic Resources. They are experts in accessibility issues. She continued with the

presentation. There is already a proposal to update the existing concession facility. Why not leverage that improvement and continue with accessibility improvements?

Councilman Colgan thinks putting the main field in the east park is the best idea. It is the west park that he has a problem with.

Brandee explained the improvement ideas and the challenges faced because of scheduling. As far as grants provided, she explained their requirements. Before moving forward with a synthetic field in the fall, they'd want to try to progress the process so the Town can be out to bid before that construction. Based on the Town's needs assessment you are still short on a Little League diamond. She explained phases of the proposed improvements and handed out printed copies and cost estimates to the Board.

Ryan Morrison explained the issue of grassed surfaces.

Supervisor McKeon asked if three of the first phases could be done together.

Brandee said it depends on the overall funding strategy.

Supervisor McKeon asked about the parking lot improvements in phase 4. Would that along with the resulting site work constitute a good enough CFA application?

Brandee told him that the feedback they got was infrastructure that supports the Empire State Trail as a priority for funding. That is going off their previous notes.

Councilperson Kane asked about trail head parking.

Brandee said they are looking for ways to support trail development. There is a real opportunity for trailhead parking that can also benefit the recreation park.

Supervisor McKeon said this does almost complete the full rehabilitation of our recreation park. It would make all the facilities available to people with physical challenges including the one field. This is very exciting. Knowing this is a significant dollar amount he thinks synthetic turf is best to incorporate with lighting. The dollar amount is not insignificant, but it does make sense. Since interest rates dropped and we have a favorable credit rating he recommends we do sooner than later. If we were to appropriate another \$500,000, we could pay for the next three years. He asked the Board to consider it.

Councilman Colgan insisted that the Town engage an occupational therapist whose profession is designing these things.

Supervisor McKeon explained that the engineers visited challenger fields and we know what is necessary in order to make that artificial surface capable of handling individuals with challenges. The recent census says we have over 700 residents with a disability. We would like to make our recreational fields available to them. Today is about whether we would like to entertain a modification and take the next step which is to run numbers to see if we want to move forward.

Councilman O'Neill feels the proposal is reasonable and well thought out. The recreation commission is agreeable with it so he would approve it.

Councilperson Kane agrees with Councilman O'Neill. She wants to make sure that when we get to the upgrades of the lights, we make sure it doesn't create more of a problem for the neighbors.

Councilperson Imboden thinks the plan as presented is a much better master plan which reflects what the community expressed to the Board. It reflects the recreational needs assessment. It looks like something that the engineers and the Supervisor realized was a good idea. That is great but we missed an opportunity to make this a public process and to really get the public into this discussion. The feedback she got is that the public feels left out. She feels there is a lack of communication among the Board with the Rec. Commission.

Councilman Colgan said there is no way we have 700 challenged people in this community.

These fields are made for young people. This design is far better than we had before, but the price is mind boggling. We have a lot of services to provide. He was not included in this and without that opportunity he is hard pressed to go along with it.

Supervisor McKeon is very happy with the way the process unfolded on this project. The Town went through a process in 2013/14 to develop a plan for this property. We got a CDBG to make one of the fields ADA accessible. There was a neighborhood meeting about the recreation park west and many of those neighbors enjoyed the property in the current state. We held three community meetings where we got input. Suggestions included multiple paths. The process lasted nearly a year. He clarified that he asked Tighe & Bond to give a presentation to give the Board the opportunity to comment on that presentation. It seems that the Board likes this plan. He'd like to look at numbers in the initial park. Phases 1 and 2 are necessary. Should we do the natural turf baseball field in 2019 while we have that equipment and are going out to bid?

Councilman Colgan responded that we only saw this tonight, and you want us to decide now?

Supervisor McKeon said no, he is asking if there is an interest so that we can look at the financial numbers.

Councilman Colgan is concerned that the public hasn't had a chance to see this. They must have an opportunity to provide input.

Supervisor McKeon explained these issues were discussed. We would want to inform the public. Brandee said from their perspective they can talk to a certain level until they get an endorsement from the Board.

Supervisor McKeon is also concerned about the grant money we received. We did get public input on this project.

Councilman Colgan is reluctant to move forward until this becomes public knowledge.

Councilperson Kane would like to see different versions of numbers to see what would happen if we move the turf so that it would be usable for play sooner.

Brandee said that can be provided at the next meeting.

Supervisor McKeon said this will not have a significant impact on our budget.

Councilperson Imboden would like to see the numbers before deciding.

Supervisor McKeon had numbers prepared. We will look at them and we need to move this project. He is afraid of missing out on bidding opportunities if we don't move forward.

He suggested that a decision should be made at the March 12 meeting.

Councilperson Imboden wants to put it on the agenda as a public presentation of the new plan.

Brandee asked if there is space on the Recreation Park page on our Town website.

ADDENDUM TO THE 2019/2020 SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH RED HOOK FIRE COMPANY

Supervisor McKeon explained that the State mandated that volunteer fire companies have cancer coverage for their members. We have an invoice of about \$1500. It requires a public hearing to amend the fire contract.

RESOLUTION 2019 #15

RE: ESTABLISHING A DATE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE APPROVAL BY THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF RED HOOK OF AN ADDENDUM TO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT FIRE SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF RED HOOK AND THE VILLAGE OF RED HOOK FOR 2019 AND 2020

On a motion Supervisor Robert McKeon seconded by Councilperson Sarah Imboden moved to hold the public hearing on March 12 at 7:30 p.m.

Adopted	Ayes	5	McKeon, Colgan, O'Neil, Imboden, Kane
	Nays	0	

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COMMUNITY DISTRIBUTED GENERATION PROPOSAL RECOMMENDATION

Supervisor McKeon explained the resolution regarding shared services with the Village of Red Hook. We opened bids on January 14th; there were three on the project. The proposals were reviewed and all three were complete. The Energy Committee met and developed a scoring sheet. They have recommended the commencement of negotiations with those with the highest score.

RESOLUTION 2019 #16

RE: AUTHORIZING COMMENCEMENT OF NEGOTIATIONS FOR A PROJECT SPONSOR FOR SOLAR PV COMMUNITY DISTRIBUTED GENERATION

On a motion of Supervisor Robert McKeon seconded by Councilperson Sarah Imboden moved to authorize the commencement of negotiations with Suncommon in response to the NYSERDA Community Distributed Generation RFP proposal.

Adopted	Ayes	5	McKeon, Colgan, O'Neill, Imboden, Kane
	Nays	0	

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RED HOOK COMMUNITY CENTER, INC. SERVICES AGREEMENT

Supervisor McKeon explained that through our budgetary process we have helped with programs run through our Community Center. They asked if we would consider increasing our support and would like to formalize our relationship with a service agreement. We asked them to provide a list of programs they feel we should help sponsor financially. We currently give a

little less than \$4,000 a year. They are asking for an annual support level of \$10,000 for the classes. He asked the Board for their thoughts.

Attorney Chale explained this is to go to the Community Center for programs.

Councilperson Kane asked if they want to use the funds to pay their instructors to provide classes.

Attorney Chale wanted to clarify that we want them to run those classes without charge.

Supervisor McKeon said he thinks that most of their classes are without charge. Some have a fee.

Councilperson Imboden is ok with the amount for the Community Center. She would like to look at it in more detail.

Attorney Chale explained the contract.

The Board discussed classes, fees and tabled the resolution waiting for more information.

REPORTS

Dog Control – The January 2019 report showed 2 loose dog and related calls, 1 nuisance dog, 1 wildlife and cat. A swan was hit by a car and referred to Furry Friends. Two dogs were reported running on school property after hours. They were unable to be found.

Building & Zoning – In February there were 7 permits issued, 24 inspections, 12 CO/CC's issued, 40 complaints, (open/expired permit letter sent out) and \$3419 in revenue.

Police Department – In January there were 106 total incidents, 7 arrests and 35 tickets issued.

Purchasing – During the period of January 23 – February 27, 33 purchase orders were issued. The largest for road salt. The RFP for the Village and Town solar panel field was sent out and we received three responses. IT systems with PCA was reviewed and we are in good shape.

NYMIR conducted an inspection, Village Police are working on the speed trailer.

Water Dept. – everything working normally, measurements are better than the objective. They are going to invest \$200,000 of their reserves.

CAC Annual Report for 2018 – In summary, they reported six new efforts, and announced 5 new events. Their annual projects and works completed and ongoing were reported. They have been working on various energy related projects.

Disaster Preparedness Committee – they looked at the Towns website, use of the alert system and information that could be available through the site. They discussed ways to increase community awareness. The emergency plan was reviewed, and they discussed outreach to the community to share general emergency preparedness information.

Intermunicipal Task Force – In their January and February meetings they continued to discuss and review short term rentals for the Town and prospective regulation of Airbnb's. In January members attended a Town of Rhinebeck Planning Board workshop on short term rentals.

Recreation Commission – many projects are being worked on. Snack bar rebuild has been going on and is almost finished. Wind screens are being worked on, blue bird boxes will be installed in Recreation Park west.

Tree Preservation Commission – At their February meeting they discussed trees that have been ordered to be planted on the south side of Pitcher Lane, 51 copies of the updated tree manual will be ordered, the Arbor Day celebration will take place on April 27, Trees to be pruned and possible changes to the website page.

Trails Committee – they are also working on their web page on the Town's site.

CORRESPONDENCE

Supervisor McKeon shared the following correspondence:

-A letter regarding exemption from the Community Preservation Fund along with a response to the resident.

-A letter regarding a private road name from DC Real Property Tax Services Division. The letter refers to the private drive for Ken Migliorelli. This requires the Town Board's approval.

Attorney Chale said this must go to the Town's Planning Board to understand what this is. We don't name private driveways.

On a motion of Supervisor McKeon seconded by Councilperson Kane moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 p.m.

Adopted	Ayes	5	McKeon, Colgan, O'Neill, Imboden, Kane
	Nays	0	

Respectfully submitted,

Sue McCann, Town Clerk